

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	:	10/686,959	Confirmation No.:	8800
Applicant	:	Conner, W. Steven		
Filed	:	10/15/2003		
TC/A.U.	:	2612		
Examiner	:	Yang, Clara I		
Docket No.	:	1020.P16717		
Customer No.	:	57035		

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on May 11, 2006, with the three month shortened statutory period for response under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) set to expire on August 11, 2006, Applicant respectfully submits a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-referenced application and a Preliminary Amendment. Please consider the following amendments and/or remarks prior to examination of the above-identified RCE application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.